

president's second anniversary in office on May 20, 1998. President Lee Teng-hui, a Taiwan-born statesman, should be commended for his leadership and vision for his country.

President Lee's leadership lies in his ability to rally his 21 million compatriots into believing that the course Taiwan has chosen to take, economic and political, is right for them. President Lee has convinced them that their future lies in free trade and private enterprise as well as in full democracy. With the help of his compatriots, President Lee will lead the Republic of China to ever greater economic prosperity at home and international recognition abroad.

On the occasion of President Lee's second anniversary in office, I wish President Lee godspeed and good fortune.

NORTHERN IRELAND PEACE TREATY

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my Colleagues the following excerpts from an interview with the new President of Ireland, Mary McAleese. In her poignant description of President Clinton's visit to Northern Ireland in 1995 and his consummate diplomacy in that extremely delicate political environment, she notes how grateful the people of Ireland are to the President for his commitment and effort toward bringing about a peace treaty in Northern Ireland. I felt it should be brought to your attention. The interview, with reporter Niall O'Dowd, appeared in the May/June 1998 edition of Irish America Magazine.

Irish America: You met President Clinton during his visit to Northern Ireland in 1995. What were your impressions of him then and now?

On the day that he came to Northern Ireland, I don't think there is any doubt that the Unionists, for instance, were very skeptical. And you know as well as I do the minefield that is Northern Ireland. If you use the word Derry instead of Londonderry, or Londonderry instead of Derry, everyone is exercised. The opportunities to make a mess are total. For a president to come, and speak off the cuff as he did was amazing. He spoke flawlessly. He did not put one single foot wrong. He didn't get one inflection wrong, he didn't get one name wrong. I was absolutely mesmerized by his sheer intellect—the man is incredibly clever.

I don't know a politician on this planet who has the intellect, the depth, the charismatic skills of this man. He is extraordinary.

What he did that day was a miracle, because there was a lot of Unionist skepticism about him, a lot of determination that no matter how good this party got, they weren't going to enjoy it. And yet they did. Over the twenty-four hour period, he effectively seduced them. He won them over.

He and his wife worked a miracle that day. I just want people to know how very grateful we are for this president who is so committed. He has been a large part of the scaffolding that is holding up this kind of precarious edifice of peace. * * *

We are very grateful to the ongoing American commitment to Ireland in all its aspects because we are on the way to achieving phenomenal success. As a small island off

the west of Europe, it is desperately important to us that we have friendships that open a window onto an entirely different world to ours. It helps us to blossom and grow. I want to be able to celebrate, and thank people for that and develop a sense of the global Irish family.

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE 32ND ANNIVERSARY OF GUYANA'S INDEPENDENCE

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the New Jersey Arya Samaj Mandir, Inc. as they celebrate a very special occasion—the 32nd Anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Guyana. In honor of this event, a commemorative flag-raising ceremony will take place on Tuesday, May 26, 1998 in the Council Chambers at Jersey City Hall.

In 1621 the Dutch started to colonize Guyana and in 1640 the first slaves arrived from Africa. In 1763 about 100 years before the American Emancipation, the slaves in Guyana revolted in the ill fated effort known as the Berbice Slave Rebellion. In 1781 the British captured the colony but were ousted within the year. From 1782 until the return of the British in 1812 the colony was administered by French and Dutch Administrations.

In 1835 laborers were brought in from Portugal and 1838 marked the beginning of indentured servitude with the arrival of laborers from India. The Chinese came in 1853. In 1953 elections were held for the first time under the system of universal adult suffrage. The People's Progressive (PPP) won this election but was removed after 133 days from office by the British.

The PPP was reelected in 1957 and again in 1961. During these two terms under the system of internal self rule, the colony of the then British Guiana experienced significant social and economic growth in spite of political disturbances especially in the early 60's. In 1964, an unpopular government was brought to power through external influences. It remained in power until 1992 through constant rigging of national elections. In 1966, Guyana became an independent nation and in 1970 it obtained republican status.

On October 5th, 1992 the first free and fair elections were held since 1964. This election supervised by a team of international observers led by former U.S. President Carter brought the PPP-Civic government under the Presidency of Dr. Cheddi Jagan to office. Over 50 percent of Guyana's population consist of East Indians, whose ancestors came to Guyana from India. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I would also like to applaud the New Jersey Arya Samaj Mandir, Inc. for their support of Hindu culture and serving the educational, cultural, and religious needs of the Hindu immigrant population that lives in New Jersey.

IRS REGULATIONS HARM ELECTRIC COMPETITION

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern with new IRS regulations that undermine competition in the evolving electricity market. The regulations, which became effective in February of this year, greatly expand the role of government-owned utilities as provider in the electricity marketplace. These regulations harm competition and reduce federal, state and local tax revenues.

In response to these new regulations, I am introducing legislation today to help remedy this situation. I am joined in this effort by my colleagues, Rep. WILLIAM JEFFERSON and Rep. PHIL CRANE, both distinguished Members of the House Ways and Means Committee.

This legislation would stipulate that government-owned utilities that choose to sell beyond their service territory will be denied the use of tax-exempt debt and their general income tax exemption to support their electricity sales. In an era of evolving competition, there is no place for such government subsidies which not only harm the federal treasury but displace state and local tax revenues as well.

To deal with the dilemma that has arisen with respect to this issue, I want to clarify what my legislation will do as well as what it will not do. First, the legislation deals only with government-owned utilities that are selling excess electric generation outside of their service area. To put that in context, there are approximately 2,200 utilities in this nation that are owned by state or local governments. My bill will impact less than 30 of these government-owned utilities, those with excess generation capacity who chose to sell to persons other than their historic customers.

My legislation will help level the playing field between government-owned electric utilities and all other electricity suppliers in the new competitive marketplace. The legislation, however, will not affect the vast majority of government-owned utilities. As I mentioned earlier, less than 30 large, aggressive utilities that want to sell electric generation outside of their service territory will be affected.

My bill will not affect federally-owned utilities such as the Bonneville Power Administration nor rural electric cooperatives. Most importantly, it will not affect the vast majority of bonds issued by local municipalities which serve legitimate governmental purposes (such as police, fire, hospitals and other services) which benefit persons who reside in the service territory.

If a government-owned utility wants to compete in the open electricity marketplace, then they must give up their use of tax-exempt bonds and give up their income tax exemptions on sales outside of their historic service territory. Mr. Speaker, let me note that my bill will in no way affect the ability of a municipality to annex new service territory and engage in growth consistent with state rules and regulations. And finally, let me state that my bill will in no way affect existing tax-exempt bonds or current bond holders.

SALUTE TO BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, this week the Department of Education announced the selection of 16 secondary schools to be presented the prestigious Blue Ribbon Schools Award. I am thrilled that two of these schools, Dana Hills High School and Santa Margarita Catholic High School, are in my district, and I would like to take this opportunity to applaud both of these schools for this achievement.

Blue Ribbon Schools are judged on the basis of being especially effective in meeting local, state, and national goals. These schools display the qualities of excellence that are necessary to prepare our children for the challenges of the next century.

Dana Hills and Santa Margarita have both reached a level of excellence and fully deserve the recognition they are receiving with the Blue Ribbon Award. Teachers, parents, volunteers and of course the students themselves must be congratulated for their efforts. Through exceptional academics, athletics, and after-school programs, Dana Hills and Santa Margarita have set themselves apart from other schools.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to stand here today to recognize these excellent academic institutions and I extend my congratulations to Dana Hills High School and Santa Margarita Catholic School.

TRIBUTE TO DR. LOUIE BAROZZI

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to make a special tribute to Dr. Louie Barozzi in honor of his retirement as the Director of International Programs and Student Services at San Jose State University.

He has brought a wealth of knowledge, sensitivity, charm, and service to the university and community in the 30 years he served at San Jose State—the only place he has ever worked, in fact.

Louie started at the university in 1968 as an Advisor at Large. On his way to becoming Director of International Programs and Student Services he served as Counselor in Counseling Services and Chair of the Academic Senate.

There are not enough adjectives to describe Louie Barozzi. Some of the most apt include kind, thoughtful, insightful, caring, sensitive, hard-working, conscientious, flexible, eternally optimistic, generous, wise, humorous, witty, sympathetic, and friendly.

Louie is always willing to lend a helping hand and make time for those in need. He has been a mentor to many, serving as a surrogate father to students and a wonderful father to his own children. His wonderful sense of humor has helped carry others through difficult situations, and his ability to convey wisdom without being imposing has served him and students well over the years.

Louie is a wonderful asset to San Jose State and our entire community, and I am proud to extend to him my most heartfelt good wishes in honor of his retirement.

ANDRE NICHOLSON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WINNER, 1997-98 VFW VOICE OF DEMOCRACY SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and its Ladies Auxiliary sponsor the Voice of Democracy audio-essay scholarship competition. The program is now in its 51st year and required high school student entrants to write and record a three to five minute essay and an announced patriotic theme. "My Voice in our Democracy" was this year's theme, and more than 100,000 students participated in the program nationwide.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely proud to report to this body that Andre R. Nicholson, a senior at Ballou Senior High School has been named a National winner in the 1998 Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$1,000 Department of Nevada and its ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Award. Andre is the son of Robin and Jane Nicholson and he plans a career in marketing. Andre participated in the program as a project of his government class. I am pleased to acknowledge his teacher Paul Charles and his principal Kenneth Jones, Ph.D.

Mr. Speaker, I submit for the reflection of the Members Andre Nicholson's award winning essay.

MY VOICE IN OUR DEMOCRACY

1997-98 VFW VOICE OF DEMOCRACY SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

(By District of Columbia Winner, Andre Nicholson)

Good afternoon Honorable Judges and members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).

As a young man in high school, it is an honor and pleasure for me to participate in the VFW Voice of Democracy Scholarship Program. I hope that not only my voice in our Democracy will be heard but other voices young and old, as we enter the twenty-first century.

In Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg address he states "that this government of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish from the earth."

The basic premise of democracy cries out that each individual's worth and dignity must be recognized and respected by all of society at all times; regardless of race, religion, or station in life.

Dr. King once said he had a dream, and that dream was that one day this nation would live out the true meaning of its creed, we hold these truths to be self evident that all men are created equal.

The concepts of democracy go on to insist all men should be equal before the law and by way of opportunity; that the majority should rule restrained by minority rights. It also states that we must compromise to find a satisfactory solution and that the freedom of one individual should not infringe upon others.

This has been an experiment in government, and like all experiments it's been a

trial and error process, good time and bad times, sunshine and rain.

However, if we the people of the United States are to form a more perfect union; we must be willing to grow along spiritual lines. On the back of one of our most prize possessions (the dollar bill) is the statement "In God We Trust". If we would try more diligently to seek and do God's will, we as human beings would exhibit more God-like characteristics such as honesty, consideration, tolerance, forgiveness, faith, patience and concerns for others.

By doing this I think the democratic process would run smoother and we would form a more perfect union.

Will my voice be heard in our Democracy? Yes, I believe that my voice, as well as other young adults will be heard. In order to have a unified democracy to improve our country, it is vital that the voices of the young and the old go together in order to make this a better world.

Too many individuals, such as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and James Madison, put in countless hours of work in order for us to have a good constitution in a democratic society. We must continue and push hard. I know we can make it work.

I'd like to thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to participate in the VFW Scholarship Program and may God Bless you.

SPACE DAY

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to briefly note that today, May 21st, is "Space Day". It is a day intended to celebrate humanity's accomplishments in space. It is also a day for using space exploration as a teaching aid for imparting the importance of science and mathematics education.

First established in 1997, Space Day draws on the efforts of some 34 organizations and individuals in both the private and public sectors. It features activities in schools and communities both across America and around the world, as well as events on the Worldwide Web.

As someone who has long believed in the importance of our space program and the benefits that it can deliver to all of our citizens, I want to offer my best wishes for a successful Space Day '98.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PROFESSOR DAN GOLDRICH

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, we all had many teachers during our years of education. Some of them were more important than others in assisting our understanding of the world and our place in it. For me, Dan Goldrich was one of the very few who stood head and shoulders above the rest. He helped me develop my ability to think critically and defy conventional wisdom when necessary. He is credentialed as a Professor of Political